

Vegetation Maintenance Standards for Streets and Sidewalks

The Public Works Department has developed vegetation maintenance standards for streets and sidewalks within the City of Burien. The purpose of these standards is to promote safety by maintaining clear walkways for pedestrians, adequate sight distance for motorists, and access for emergency vehicles.

1. Vegetation must be trimmed to provide at least fourteen (14) feet of clearance above paved road surfaces and/or gravel shoulders.
2. Vegetation must be trimmed to provide at least eight (8) feet of clearance above sidewalks and one (1) foot of clearance beyond the back edge of sidewalks.
3. Mowing should be scheduled twice annually during the growing season to prevent grass from growing taller than fourteen (14) inches. Vegetation should be controlled to provide safe sight distance and allow for proper drainage.
4. Vegetation in the right of way and vegetation originating from private property must be trimmed to maintain a sight distance triangle, as illustrated in the diagram below. The sight distance triangle can contain no fence, berm, vegetation, on-site vehicle parking area, signs or other physical obstruction between 42 inches and eight feet above the ground.

